

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DATA SCRAMBLING****ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5        A modulated symbol domain data scrambling/descrambling method overcomes modulated signal non-uniform distribution problem associated with higher order M-ary QAM and M-ary PSK modulation. Since the descrambling is performed in the symbol domain, it has the flexibility to place the descrambler outside and before the QAM demapper. By doing so, it is not necessary for QAM demapper or the blocks after QAM  
10      demapper to have the knowledge of the scrambling code. The scrambling technique is also backward compatible with most of the current CDMA standards, such as IS 95 and IS-2000 standards.